

# Town Meeting

BULLETIN OF AMERICA'S TOWN MEETING OF THE AIR

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Pat. Off.

## How Can the Free Peoples of the World Best Share Peace and Well-Being?

Moderator, **GEORGE V. DENNY, Jr.**

### *Speakers*

**J. WILLIAM FULBRIGHT**

**CHARLES F. BRANNAN**

**CARLOS P. ROMULO**

**ERIC A. JOHNSTON**

(See also page 13)

### COMING

June 21, 1949

## Is Our New Rent Law Fair to Tenants and Landlords?

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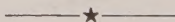


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## THE BROADCAST OF JUNE 14:

### "How Can the Free Peoples of the World Best Share Peace and Well-Being?"

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## THE BROADCAST OF JUNE 21:

### "Is Our New Rent Law Fair to Tenants and Landlords?"



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# Town Meeting

BULLETIN OF AMERICA'S TOWN MEETING OF THE AIR

GEORGE V. DENNY, JR., MODERATOR



JUNE 14, 1949

VOL. 15, No. 7

## How Can the Free Peoples of the World Best Share Peace and Well-Being?

### Announcer:

To welcome America's Town Meeting to the Fortieth Annual Convention of Rotary International, in Madison Square Garden, New York City, here is Henry T. Low, Second Vice President of Rotary International, from Bulawayo, Southern Rhodesia, South Africa.

### Mr. Low:

Sixteen thousand members of Rotary International and their families from 50 nations of the world are happy to welcome to the Fortieth Annual Convention, the largest we have ever held, this internationally famous forum, America's Town Meeting of the Air. On the eve of its departure for its first world tour to 12 world capitals, it is fitting that this distinguished program should originate in the company of so representative a group of citizens from the world.

I am sure that many of you here tonight will be on hand to meet Mr. Denny and his associates when they arrive in your respective countries, and I am equally sure that the rest of you now listening will follow with eager interest as the Town Crier's Liberty-Bell—Freedom's bell—rings around the world this summer.

### Announcer:

And now to preside over our discussion, here is our moderator, the President of Town Hall, New York, and the founder of America's Town Meeting, Mr. George V. Denny, Jr. Mr. Denny.

### Moderator Denny:

Good evening, neighbors. Let me extend a special greeting to



the thousands of Rotarians in this country and around the world who are meeting with the 16,000 Rotarians and their guests here in Madison Square Garden tonight in New York City through the miracle of radio and television. We are indeed honored to be your guests at your Fortieth Annual Convention.

A subject such as the one we are considering tonight, "How Can the Free Peoples of the World Best Share Peace and Well Being?" would have been understood by only a few people years ago, but today enlightened men and women everywhere know that unless we find a way of sharing our peace and well being with the rest of the world, the alternatives are chaos, slavery and oblivion.

To attack this problem, President Truman, in his Inaugural Address last January, made his now famous Point Four. He said in part, "... we must embark on a bold new program for making the benefits of our scientific advances and industrial progress available for the improvement and growth of the undeveloped areas. Greater production is the key to prosperity and peace, and the key to greater production is a wider and more vigorous application of modern scientific and technical knowledge. Only by helping the least fortunate of its members to help themselves can the human family achieve the decent, satisfying life that is the right of all people."

Continuing, he said, "Democracy alone can supply the vitalizing force to stir the peoples of the world into triumphant action, not only against their human oppressors, but also against their ancient enemies—hunger, misery, and despair."

To help us find ways of accomplishing these high purposes, we have invited a member of the President's Cabinet—the Secretary of Agriculture, a distinguished United States Senator, an American business leader, and a distinguished spokesman for the people of Asia—Ambassador to the United Nations from the Philippines to this country.

We will hear first from the gentleman from the State of Colorado who had long been active in the problems of agricultural production before he came to Washington in 1944 as Assistant Secretary of Agriculture. In June of last year he became our fourteenth Secretary of Agriculture. We are happy to welcome to this platform the Honorable Charles F. Brannan, of Colorado. (*Applause.*)

### **Secretary Brannan:**

Mr. Denny, Mr. Low, our guest, distinguished guests here on the platform, and ladies and gentlemen, there is little reason to believe that a hungry world could ever become a peaceful world.

the same token, most of us will agree that as long as starvation and misery prevail among substantial numbers of people elsewhere in the world they constitute a potential threat to our peace and to our well-being. So I should like to talk about how we, as the freest of the free people, can best share the elements of peace and well-being with our less fortunate neighbors; talk about it, I may, in terms of the greatest of all common denominators—world.

Today, two-thirds of the earth's inhabitants till the soil, and yet that portions of the world's population do not have enough to eat. Modern ploughs, hand labor, and antiquated methods are not equal to the job of supplying enough food for all the world. This country, one of the few on the face of the earth, is capable of producing enough food for all of its people. This country is one of the few today that can produce an abundance for its own population and still have food for export.

When, because of a war, it became necessary to produce almost unlimited amounts of food for the domestic front and the fighting front, and for our allies, the American farmer increased his production by almost a third above prewar averages. On the other hand, at the turn of the century, we were probably destroying in the United States more than one million acres per year of productive land. Today, we've reduced the loss to much less than half a million acres per year, and we are fast on the way to eliminating this waste.

Other nations continue to waste their resources as we did a few decades ago. Others have not yet learned how to make use of their own resources that lie within their borders. Their people are oppressed, and their people themselves constitute a fertile field for political and economic ideologies directly contrary to our views of democracy.

Now, how is it possible and practical to make our wondrous science, research, knowledge, and skills available to other peoples of the world without great expense to the American people and as one of the steps toward world peace? I believe it can be done, and the reason I am so confident is because we are now doing some of this with great success, especially in the Western Hemisphere. There are a number of agricultural experiment projects going on with our Neighbors to the South, and we often learn as much from them as we are able to teach them. It might be a shock to our pride here in this country, but many of the major crops on which the United States economy depends today were taken from other countries in the first instance.

We are already exporting our machinery, so that our friends



may replace their inefficient work animals with fast and efficient power, and this phase is more important than it first appears, for, within our own country, by the shift from horses and mules to tractors, we have released some twenty million acres of land to the production of human food—acres that were previously used to produce feed and fuel, if you will, for those power animals.

It was the potential in the export of this knowledge, these technical skills, the development in machinery, and improvements in new weapons to fight insects and weeds that in my opinion President Truman counted upon when he announced his four-point program in his Inaugural Address; and it was the possibility, inherent in our rapidly expanding agricultural knowledge that encouraged Franklin Roosevelt to talk with hope for the four freedoms, among which you will all recall was freedom from war.

To make this knowledge and information available will cost some American dollars, but there is fortunately one element which does not cost us anything, and perhaps this aspect can be best explained like this.

If you had a dollar and I had a dollar and we exchanged dollars, neither has gained and neither has lost. We each end up with one dollar. But if you have a good idea and I have a good idea and we exchange ideas, we have both gained and neither has lost, for we each have two good ideas—ideas which will make it possible for most of the people on the face of the earth to enjoy at least a decent minimum diet are in my opinion the cornerstone of our contribution to world peace. (*Applause.*)

### **Moderator Denny:**

Thank you, Secretary Brannan. I know that during the Question Period some of this vast audience is going to ask you how to make those ideas come alive.

Our next speaker hails from even farther west than Secretary Brannan—from Spokane, Washington. After a brilliant career in the Marine Corps in World War I, Eric Johnston started his business at the bottom. His career is typical of what a man with energy, imagination, and enterprise can accomplish under the American system. In 1942, he was elected president of the United States Chamber of Commerce, a post which he held with distinction for four years. He has traveled widely and has become a strong advocate of expanding world trade. In 1945, Mr. Johnston became president of the Motion Picture Association, a position which he now holds. In spite of his busy career, he has had time to write books, the latest of which has the fascinating title *We Can All In It*.

Eric Johnston, may we hear from you now, please? Mr. Johnston. (*Applause.*)

**Mr. Johnston:**

It's easy to follow the Secretary of Agriculture on a program to help backward nations increase their agricultural output with American techniques and "know-how," but before this evening is over I hope that the Secretary will tell us how.

At the age of 49, the Twentieth Century has been more of a failure than a success. No other century has known how to make so much wealth or how to throw it away more recklessly. No other century has had the talent for a production that is greater, but we've also had the talent for destructive wars and devastating depressions which has been even greater.

No other country has had the ability to lengthen man's span of life, but also no other century has worked so hard at being able to destroy man in wholesale quantities. At middle age, it could look as if the Twentieth Century should have sown all the wild oats that are coming to any century.

Now, what about the next 50 years? Are they going to be fulfillment of man's quest and desire for a higher standard of living and for peace? I think they may—providing man gets a little sanity—and America can have a glorious opportunity to help redeem the twentieth century.

We're talking tonight about increasing industrial output, and why are we talking about that? Because I know of no other way to increase the standard of living of a people except through increasing the output per man-hour, and that means industrialization.

America has no desire for a single inch of anybody else's acreage. We do not want to exploit any other land, but we also must recognize that our desire for industrialization of the world is not entirely altruistic. We must recognize that we must have the best of the word industrialized if we're going to expand commerce and trade. We have always enjoyed the highest standard of business with those countries that have the greatest degree of industrialization.

Now how are we going to do this? I hope in the years to come that it can be done by the maximum amount of private investment and the minimum amount of government investment. (*Applause.*) But the great stumbling block is that private investment is very shy. It's very fearful of crossing borders. It's as shy as a country mouse and must be coaxed just as coyly.

There are three reasons why capital does not flow abroad. They



are, first, the fear of nationalization, confiscation, and war; second, the inability to convert foreign earnings into American dollars; and third, a whole list of restrictions imposed by many countries to prohibit the flow of American capital into those areas.

I'm going to suggest tonight that these three bottlenecks be removed under the following program.

First, that under an actuarial insurance basis, through an existing government agency such as the RFC or the Import-Export Bank, and under the basis of the Federal Housing Authority, which has been a success, we insure private investments abroad against the extraordinary business risks of nationalization, confiscation, or war, not the ordinary business risks.

Second, I am going to suggest that we insure the convertibility of American earnings abroad into dollars under the principle now adopted in the European Recovery Program, and that it be done on an actuarial basis.

Third, that our State Department work with individual countries bilaterally and not multilaterally, to remove the restrictions in individual countries towards the flow of American capital into those areas.

And I'm going to make one other qualification, and that is that American capital flow abroad in partnership with the capital of the nations of the countries involved, on a minority interest basis but with a long-term contract, to guarantee that the American investment will be returned.

We have already done this in a number of instances south of the Rio Grande. We can do it in a number of other instances. I hope that we can begin to elevate the standard of living of the peoples of the world, and in the process, that we can begin to muffle the idea of the total state and more firmly entrench the idea—the democratic ideal—of total man. I think this is not only a hope; I think it can be done. (*Applause.*)

### **Moderator Denny:**

Thank you, Eric Johnston, for another brilliant idea. Nearly everyone in this audience is familiar with the Fulbright Resolution, passed in September, 1943, when the Senator was a member of the House of Representatives, which called for an international organization to maintain the peace, which was passed by the Congress by a vote of 360 to 29.

As you know, after two years of distinguished service in the House, Mr. Fulbright was elected to the United States Senate and has been active in a variety of legislative matters, particularly concerning small business and international affairs. More recently



he sponsored a bill which provided for the use of credits from the sale of surplus war products to finance an exchange of students between this country and the countries of other nations. This program is just getting under way.

We're happy to welcome to Town Hall the Honorable J. William Fulbright, Democrat of Arkansas. Senator Fulbright. (Applause.)

### **Senator Fulbright:**

Mr. Denny, you forgot to say I was a Rotarian, too. (Applause.)

I first want to say that I think Mr. Brannan's idea of the exchange of ideas is an excellent one and exactly what I had in mind in my own thoughts. The world is troubled today by a lack of faith in our ability to reestablish and maintain peace. The creation of the United Nations momentarily gave us hope that we could reconcile our differences by reason rather than by force, but that optimism has given place to some disillusionment, as our differences have increased rather than diminished in recent months.

Too many people have believed that peace could be bought by the signing of a charter with an impressive red seal. The making of peace is a continuing process which must go on, day after day, and year after year, as long as our civilization shall last.

The Point Four program, as I see it, is a continuing, long-range program designed to attack the causes of human conflict at their source. Those causes are, of course, infinitely complex and varied, but I think it may be said that an inefficient production and maldistribution of material goods and a lack of understanding of and confidence in our fellow men are two of the primary causes.

The genius of the Point Four approach is its emphasis upon the spread of knowledge, rather than the free distribution of material goods. It is an affirmative effort to solve our problems permanently, rather than a relief program for present distress. In a word, Point Four to me is a vast educational program.

It is by no means merely the spread of technical know-how, as important as that is. Primarily, it involves the problem of human relations. It will attempt to extend throughout the world a knowledge of those political and social institutions and principles which, in limited areas of the world, have enabled some people to live in peace with their fellow men.

The great trouble with the human race, in the past, has not been so much the inability to produce material things. It has been the inability to avoid the destruction of its material wealth and its moral standards by recurrent warfare.

I regard the Point Four program, in a sense, as the logical suc-

cessor to the European Recovery Program. The ERP is primarily an emergency economic recovery project which, because of the war, was necessary to prevent collapse, but it does not offer a permanent solution. Furthermore, it is so costly that this country cannot support it indefinitely. The Point Four program with its emphasis upon the exchange of students, teachers, and technicians, is a permanent, continuing program which should make it possible for people to help themselves economically, and above all, to learn to live together in peace, under institutions and laws which they voluntarily accept.

Point Four should be a continuing program because its cost is negligible, compared to the European Recovery Program. The latter has cost the American people the first year more than \$5,000,000,000. It is estimated that the first year of the Point Four program will cost less than 50 million dollars, or about one per cent of the cost of the ERP.

Properly carried through, with intelligence and wisdom, this program can be effective to bring about peace and prosperity, assuming, of course, that man is capable of learning, which I think he may be. Our experience with the exchange of students under the Boxer Indemnity Fund and the Belgian-American Foundation gives support to this conclusion. Already our government under Public Law 584 is sponsoring three thousand scholarships this coming year from the credit from the sale of surplus war material which we sold abroad after the last war. Point Four should enormously enlarge that program.

As the principal sponsor of the Point Four program, the United States quite naturally will be the object of intense study by other peoples. People throughout the world will eventually understand that our physical strength and our personal freedom are founded primarily upon the political unity of our 48 sovereign states. They will understand that the freedom from fear and oppression resulting from that unity has unleashed the energies and talents of 150 million people, with a result unequaled in all history. I think through Point Four the Old World can be taught the lesson of the New World, peace and well-being may be made the lot of people everywhere. (*Applause.*)

### **Moderator Denny:**

Thank you, Senator Fulbright. Our discussion tonight would be incomplete without a spokesman for the people of Asia, and we're fortunate indeed in having a man known in the world councils for his rare eloquence, ability, and integrity.

General Carlos P. Romulo is Ambassador Extraordinary and

plenipotentiary and Chief of the Philippine Mission to the United Nations. He was born in Manila, graduated from the University of the Philippines, and Columbia University of New York City. He served as General MacArthur's aid on Bataan, Corregidor, and Australia, and accompanied General MacArthur in the liberating forces on Leyte and in the recapture of Manila. General Romulo is also a Pulitzer Prize winner and the author of several books, the most recent being *I See the Philippines Rise*, and we're happy to welcome back to Town Hall, General Carlos P. Romulo. (Applause.)

### **General Romulo:**

I'm still a Rotarian. (Applause.)

Secretary Brannan talked of food as among the first essentials for peace and well-being. He described how the United States is sharing its agricultural knowledge with other countries.

Mr. Johnston said, "The Point Four really means the opening up of industries in underdeveloped countries, thus providing the people with the means to better living." He believes this can be brought about by what he calls partnership capitalism—for American capital to flow abroad on a junior partnership basis with native capital.

Senator Fulbright considers Point Four a continuing educational program. He sees it as involving international agreements to assure capital investments, employment of technicians in a variety of professions, exchange of students and teachers to raise the standard of living of the underdeveloped countries.

I shall deal with the phase that pertains to Asia. To assess the problem properly in relation to Asia, we must bear in mind three points.

First, the self-evident fact that the freedom and well-being of Asia are essential to lasting peace and security in our interdependent world. Over one billion people, more than half the human race, live in Asia. The region is one of the main sources of vital, strategic, industrial, medical, and household materials like tin, quinine, rubber, tungsten, sugar, oil and spices.

As long as parts of Asia are held in bondage there will be nationalist risings that will imperil the peace of the world. As long as Asia's peoples are plunged in poverty and plagued by the social and economic ills that poverty breeds, the goal of universal prosperity and well-being will remain out of reach.

Second, that Asia is emerging as a potentially powerful third force in world politics. Asia has already proved strong enough to break the shackles of imperialist control. The last colonial hold-



ings in Asia are tottering. Communism has made gains since the war, but not great enough to dominate the region outside China (*Applause.*) The tendency of the free states of Asia is to form an Asian union which would be non-Communist rather than anti-Communist. This would enable them to act as a counterpoise against the threat of a renascent colonialism on the one hand and an aggressive totalitarianism on the other; to play the role of mediators rather than partisans in the battle of ideologies contending for the mastery of the world. They will resist any attempt of political or economic exploitation by any power in or out of Asia.

Third, that most of Asia is economically underdeveloped in large areas that were heavily damaged during the war. The United Nations' global program of technical assistance in underdeveloped countries based on President Truman's bold new plan may provide the answer to Asia's long-term needs for expert advice in the field of economic development. Her short-term needs cannot wait for the program to get underway. To get the money and materials she needs for reconstruction, Asia will have to deal with whoever can meet her requirements.

This is the point at which the political and economic factors in the Asian equation converge. Whether the final orientation of Asia will be toward Western democracy or toward communism will depend, in very great measure, on which side can or will help the peoples of Asia. From these basic problems, from these basic premises, we are led to the following conclusions:

First, economic assistance to Asia must be considered as part and parcel of the problem of world recovery. On the basis of exhaustive studies made in 1947, the United Nations Working Group for Asia and the Far East reported: "Asia's recovery is a prerequisite for sound world trade relations, as well as for effecting on a world-wide basis that improvement of living standards which is one of the most important objectives of the United Nations."

Secondly, economic assistance to Asia must be provided under conditions acceptable to Asia and compatible with the freedom and dignity of the Asian peoples. Any attempt to use Asia's need for economic aid as an opportunity for economic or political exploitation of the region can only lead to new conflicts.

Third, the Western democracies, particularly the United States should do everything possible to meet Asia's need for immediate economic assistance in order to minimize the possibility that Asia may turn communistic out of desperation. Even the short-term aid to Asia, however, must take into account the trend towards an integrated economy for the entire region. Economic assistance

Asia must be regarded as an investment in world peace and freedom. (Applause.)

**Moderator Denny:**

Thank you, General Romulo, for your frank and forthright statement.

With such a large audience of Rotarians here in Madison Square Garden tonight, eager to ask you gentlemen questions, I think we'll pass up the discussion period tonight, so that we may have as long a question period as possible. In the meantime, we have a special message for all Town Meeting listeners.

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## THE SPEAKERS' COLUMN

**CHARLES F. BRANNAN**—Prior to his appointment as Secretary of Agriculture in June, 1948, Charles Brannan was assistant secretary of the Department.

Born in Denver, Colorado, in 1903, he graduated with an LL.B. from the University of Denver, was admitted to the bar in 1929, and practiced law in Denver till 1935. During the next six years he served as attorney for the U. S. Department of Agriculture. From 1941-44 he was regional director of the Farm Security Administration.

Secretary Brannan is also advisor to the American Delegation of the United Nations Conference.

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**ERIC A. JOHNSTON**—Mr. Johnston is president of the Motion Picture Association of America, Inc. He was born in Washington, D. C., in 1896, and studied at the University of Washington, where he received an LL.B. in 1917.

He organized and is now the president of the Brown-Johnston Company, a retail electrical business, and the Columbia Electric and Manufacturing Company, both of Spokane, Washington. Mr. Johnston also heads the Columbia Electric Instrument Company, and is chairman of the board of the Washington Brick and Lime Company. From 1942-46, Mr. Johnston was president of the Chamber of Commerce of the United States. During the war, he served on the Economic Stabilization Board, the Economic Development Commission under Paul G. Hoffman, the War Manpower Commission and Committee for Drafting of Federal Employees, and John Steelman's War Mobilization and Reconversion Committee. He has been president of the Motion Picture Association since 1945.

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**CARLOS P. ROMULO**—General Romulo is chief of the Philippine Mission to the United Nations. Born in Manila in 1899, he graduated from the University of the Philippines, and then

came to Columbia University, where he received an A.M. in 1921. He also holds an honorary LL.D. degree from Notre Dame University and from Rollins College.

During the period from 1919 to 1928, General Romulo was editor of various newspapers and periodicals in the Philippine Islands and was professor and lecturer at the University of the Philippines. He served on the Philippine Independence Mission to the United States in 1921, 1924, 1929, and 1933, and was president of the Philippine Columbian Association from 1933-37. A major in the Philippine Army Reserve, he was inducted into the U. S. Army on Dec. 17, 1941. In September, 1944, he was promoted to brigadier general.

General Romulo was awarded the Pulitzer Prize for distinguished correspondence in 1941. He is the author of many books, among them, *My Brother American*; *Mother America*; and *I Saw the Fall of the Philippines*.

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**JAMES WILLIAM FULBRIGHT**—A member of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, Senator Fulbright has been both an attorney and an instructor of law. He was graduated from the University of Arkansas with an A.B. degree in 1925. As a Rhodes scholar he received B.A. and M.A. degrees from Oxford College in England in 1928, and in 1934 he was graduated with distinction from George Washington University with an LL.B. degree.

Admitted to the District of Columbia bar, he served for one year as special attorney in the Anti-Trust Division of the Department of Justice. The next year he taught law at George Washington University, leaving to become a lecturer in law at the University of Arkansas. From the department of law he stepped into the presidency of the University of Arkansas in 1939. In the November, 1942, election he was elected to Congress. He has been a U. S. Senator since 1945.

Senator Fulbright is president of the Fulbright Investment Company.

**Announcer:**

It is now my pleasure to present, on behalf of Town Hall, the Chairman of Town Hall's Board of Trustees, a former President of the New York State Chamber of Commerce, Mr. Peter Grimm.

**Mr. Grimm:**

I am sure that you all share my enthusiasm for the splendid informing addresses we have just heard by Secretary Brannan, Senator Fulbright, Eric Johnston, and General Romulo. One of the great things about these Town Meetings is that any citizen may ask publicly any question of anyone on its broadcasts, whether he is a member of the President's Cabinet, a United States Senator, a distinguished American businessman, or even a General. That is distinctly the American way.

For fourteen years George Denny and our Town Hall staff in association with this network have been presenting these programs all over the United States. Now, as guests in twelve world capitals, they are about to take it around the world. More than 15,000 Town Meeting listeners have sent in contributions totaling nearly \$40,000 to help make this trip possible. The names of these contributors, listed under their cities, will be included in a plaque which will be presented to the Mayor of each city from which Town Meeting originates on this trip.

We still need about \$20,000. If you have not yet sent in your contribution we hope you will send it in this week. We know you approve of this great venture in democracy, so won't you support it with your dollars? Please send your contribution to Town Hall, New York, New York.



# QUESTIONS, PLEASE!

*Mr. Denny:* We'll start with the question over here on this side of the hall. Yes, sir?

*Man:* Will Rotary's exchange of students, with private funds, between nations, help share the peace and understanding?

*Senator Fulbright:* Well, it certainly will. I just had lunch a few days ago with two Italian men the Rotary Club of Little Rock had brought. Last year they brought two French boys. If all the Rotary Clubs in this country would do the same each year, I think it would make the greatest possible contribution to the very exchange of ideas and knowledge that I had reference to; and it can be even more effective if the Rotary Club, or other private institutions, will do that. And I hope that they will vastly increase that same program. (*Applause.*)

*Man:* Mr. Johnston. I would like to ask, don't you think it might be a step in the right direction to increase the work week from 40 to 45 hours without time-and-a-half?

*Mr. Johnston:* No. My answer is, no I do not think it would.

*Man:* Secretary Brannan, are not our sights set too low in view of the present serious world crisis? Should we not set up a 20-year billion dollar fund? If we were ready to wage total war again, would we not be ready to wage total peace?

*Secretary Brannan:* The gentleman is right. We ought to be ready and able and interested in waging total peace. I'm not sure that it's going to take that kind of money. As a matter of fact, if we had that much money available today, I'm not sure we would know how to spend it by a long ways. I agree with you that in this process of getting world peace, we have got to extend our knowledge, skills, know-how, and experience to those people overseas who need it.

*Man:* General Romulo. Won't the people of Asia think the United States has an ulterior motive in President Truman's Point Four program?

*General Romulo:* In the Point Four program, I think the Asian peoples will welcome it and will not think in it or see in it an ulterior motive.

*Man:* Assuming that your recent visit with Mr. Stalin was not all business, did you set forth any of the views you outlined last night, Mr. Johnston, and if so, what was his reaction? (*Laughter and applause.*)

*Mr. Denny:* That comes pretty close to being a personal question, Mr. Johnston, but if you care to comment, go right ahead.

*Mr. Johnston:* I had three hours with Marshal Stalin in the Kremlin, and I'm sure I couldn't condense it in one minute, but it's perfectly obvious that I didn't discuss exactly what I discussed tonight. (*Applause.*)

*Man:* Senator Fulbright. What do you mean, Senator, when you say Point Four is a vast educational program? Will you please be specific?

*Senator Fulbright:* The emphasis, in the President's words, was on the exchange of technical knowledge and know-how, I believe rather than on the giving of goods or money, as in the ECA, and part of that program would be the exchange of students, which is the most efficient way to spread the know-how of a technical nature, a scientific nature, and a liberal nature. We've already had considerable experience with South America, and now with the program that I mention derived from surplus war property. Now I think the Point Four program is an enlargement of the same policy which, in a small way, we have had going for a number of years.

*Mr. Denny:* Thank you. A question from over here on the other aisle. Yes?

*Man:* General Romulo, do you consider that General MacArthur's policy, dealing with Japanese postwar economy, is making a contribution toward ultimate peace in the Orient?

*General Romulo:* That is quite a difficult question to answer. We have the reparations question that is, to us in the Philippines, vital. The reparations from Japan has been canceled recently, and we feel that it should not have been canceled. However, we feel that General MacArthur is a great man, and we have faith in him. (*Applause.*)

*Man:* Senator Fulbright, what can Rotary International do to achieve worldwide eternal peace?

• *Mr. Denny:* Ah, yes. That's one of those questions that you can't possibly answer in a minute, Senator. I don't think you ought to try. Can we take another question? The gentleman over here. Yes.

*Man:* Senator Fulbright. Do you think that a world government such as Mr. Meyer and Justice Douglas outlined could help toward a world peace?

*Senator Fulbright:* I think that such a government, an effective one, could, definitely; but I do not think at this time there's any practical political possibility of its coming about. But a program under Point Four could certainly tend to lay the basis for the acceptance of law and rules of conduct among people.

I may add, with regard to the previous question, that what Rotary is doing today, as I tried to make plain in the local club

bringing foreign students to this country, makes a great contribution to peace.

*Man:* Secretary Brannan. Is there any real hope for a permanently well-fed world population, unless means of controlling national birth rates are discovered and used?

*Mr. Denny:* A broad subject we're discussing tonight, Mr. Secretary.

*Secretary Brannan:* I must say, first of all, that I am not one of those who believe that our population will outrun our capacity to produce food. (*Applause.*) We have demonstrated in this country the ability to produce food by tremendous leaps and bounds over what anybody thought we could do a few years ago. We're well ahead of our own population in this country, and as we know the resources from what we know about them in places like India, as we learn more about how you can get food out of land which seems to have been destroyed by bad land-use practices—we will have a great deal of faith in the capacity of the world soils to take care of a lot of people.

*Mr. Denny:* Thank you, Mr. Secretary. Now the lady down here in this aisle.

*Lady:* To General Romulo. How can American investors overcome the charge of exploitation and imperialism?

*General Romulo:* Very simple! By living up to the Four Freedoms. (*Applause.*)

*Lady:* I'd like to address this to Mr. Eric Johnston. What you stated, Mr. Eric Johnston, about the difficulties of American investment is true. Your solution is also workable and practical. You commented that the Secretary of Agriculture gave us the WHAT, but did not tell us the HOW. You gave us the HOW, but will you tell us WHEN we can expeditiously work out this plan, because for what is the horse if there is no grass, and when will that grass come? When we are dead?

*Mr. Denny:* Somebody is very eager to have you put your plan into action, Mr. Johnston.

*Mr. Johnston:* American private capital is flowing abroad now, but in very limited quantities. It's flowing abroad at about one-half of one per cent of our national income. England, in the hey-day of her commercial supremacy for a hundred years, invested about one per cent of her national income abroad. I think that we must increase the amount that we spend abroad in national income. We are doing some now. I hope that eventually we'll be able to spend a great deal more by removing the bottlenecks.

*Mr. Denny:* Thank you. The gentleman over here, please.

*Man:* General Romulo. Rather than an economical boom, false



education, and a forced armament assistance, should we not begin with a true education with our American people before we try to give a false education to the world?

*Mr. Denny:* Shouldn't we begin with a true education to our own American people without giving a false education to the rest of the world? That's what the lawyers call a leading question, isn't it? You'll have to accept the premise.

*General Romulo:* Well, I will have to refer that to the distinguished Americans here on the stage, because that is the problem. (*Applause.*)

*Mr. Denny:* Thank you. That must have been a lawyer who asked that question. Now, Mr. Johnston, I have a question here that was sent in by telegraph this morning and signed by four enthusiastic Columbus, Ohio, listeners, and here's the question: "How will the President's Point Four promote peace and conserve our national resources?"

*Mr. Johnston:* Well, we're beginning to have political emancipation, but you can't have political emancipation in a democracy unless you begin to have economic emancipation. The two go hand in hand. You can't have democracy over a period of time unless you can have economic stability. Therefore, I think the President's Point Four does promote peace. As far as conserving our natural resources are concerned, I think the greatest natural resource we have is the ingenuity of the American people, and if we can continue that, we don't need to worry so much about the rest.

*Man:* Senator Fulbright. Don't you think to increase world friendship and economic productivity we should eliminate our ultra-conservative immigration policy?

*Senator Fulbright:* If I understand the question correctly, I think the purpose of this program, of which I approve, is to enable the people who live in the various countries to build a life in those countries that is decent and, I hope, democratic and peaceful. I do not conceive that it is a proper solution to bring them all into this country. (*Applause.*)

*Man:* General Romulo. Have we subordinated our traditional Asiatic policy to our European responsibilities, and is this the cause of the gradual loss of Asian confidence in America?

*General Romulo:* We naturally, in Asia, would have preferred as much attention to us as there is to Europe. Unfortunately, that doesn't seem to be possible now. We therefore feel that some attention must be directed and focused to Asia, too. We feel that there can be only world recovery if the world recovery is for the whole world and not only for a portion of the world. (*Applause.*)

*Man:* Mr. Johnston. You say that American business should

invest abroad. Should big business share the industrial patents with foreign countries?

*Mr. Johnston:* Well, that's . . . I think I'm like Senator Fulbright. I don't know how exactly that would benefit the world, but if it would—yes! I would say that big business should share its patents with foreign countries providing they were adequately paid for them, of course. I see no reason why they should give them away.

*Mr. Man:* Why do you permit countless tons of potatoes to be spoiled for human consumption by spraying them with chemicals. Why aren't they used for the hungry of the world?

*Mr. Denny:* I knew the potato would rear its ugly head, Mr. Secretary. Go ahead.

*Secretary Brannan:* Well, of course, that's a lead to a good political speech, but I'll lay off of that part of it. The truth of it is we make every possible use of the potato that we know how. They are being turned into potato flour. They are being shipped overseas when there are opportunities to ship them overseas, but remember this. You have to have refrigerated ships. You have to have dock facilities on the other side, and those dock facilities were mostly destroyed. You've got to have refrigeration on the other side, because — not within the last six months — freight traveled about the average of eight miles a day throughout most of Europe. The product potato is a perishable, and it is very expensive to reduce it to a storable, and you can only ship storables on general terms. We tried to ship them overseas and they landed here in pretty bad shape.

*Mr. Denny:* Thank you very much, Mr. Secretary. I wish we had time for more questions. There are a great many people in the audience eager to ask questions, but while our speakers prepare their summaries for tonight's program, here is a special message of interest to you.

*Announcer:* Each week, more than 10,000 people order copies of our Town Meeting Bulletin, which contains a complete transcript of each program. Copies of the Bulletin are 10c each, but if you want quantity orders of tonight's program, special rates are available for one hundred or more. If you want single copies, just write to Town Hall, Box 56, New York 46, and allow about two weeks for delivery. Please do not send stamps. If you want quantity orders, we suggest that you wire Town Hall, New York, stating the quantity in which you are interested and you will receive prompt attention.

During the next three weeks, while Mr. Denny and his associates are preparing for the first world tour programs, regular

Town Meetings will continue to come to you each week at this same hour. If you want to attend these broadcasts, send a stamped, self-addressed envelope to Town Hall, Box 56, New York 46. And if you haven't sent in your contribution for Dollars for Democracy, why not do it tonight? The address is the same, Town Hall, Box 56, New York 46.

Now for our summaries of tonight's discussion, we return you to Mr. Denny.

*Mr. Denny:* We hear first from General Romulo.

*General Romulo:* To have a peace that will endure, we must share available well-being in our world. That is the incontrovertible fact which our discussion has established tonight. In practical terms, it means better distribution of food, reconstruction loans, capital for new industries, and technical aid. These are the means by which the Western world can best share its well-being with Asia, and in return share fully in Asia's increasing well-being.

But these methods can only work under new rules. Economic aid must be regarded from a global point of view, not regional and not as a means of securing economic and political advantage but as a key opening up a new era of equal and mutually beneficial partnership with the rest. (*Applause.*)

*Mr. Denny:* Thank you, General Romulo. Now, Senator Fulbright.

*Senator Fulbright:* Mr. Denny, first, I want to recommend to all the Rotarians here that they study and, I hope, follow the example of the Little Rock, Arkansas, Rotary Club, in bringing over those students. I could see from the questions that several members have already thought of that.

In summary, I strongly believe that the Point Four proposal has within it the possibilities of bringing peace to the world. It has never been tried before, but it has great promise of success. I think we should give it a try. (*Applause.*)

*Mr. Denny:* Thank you. And now, Mr. Eric Johnston.

*Mr. Johnston:* The question is always asked, "Why should we help industrialize the rest of the world?" The great upsurge of political emancipation is going on around the world. As I said a few moments ago, it must be matched by economic emancipation. One is no good without the other. You cannot have democracy long, unless you have a certain degree of economic emancipation. That's what industrialization around the world will accomplish. (*Applause.*)

*Mr. Denny:* Thank you, Mr. Johnston. And now, Secretary Brannan.

*Secretary Brannan:* Mr. Denny and ladies and gentlemen.



think the conclusion, from what I see in the picture, is this—that food has been very good to this country of ours. We have been able to produce in abundance. We last year shipped over seven hundred million bushels of grain to countries overseas to make it possible for them to live while they got back on their feet. Now, it seems to me we're faced with the second step, and that is to make it possible for them to produce in their own lands so that they can feed themselves. That is what I conceive to be a part of the obligation of the American people. It is humanitarian in a real sense, and it is one of the steps without which I don't think peace is possible at all. (Applause.)

Mr. Denny: Thank you, Secretary Brannan, Eric Johnston, Senator Fulbright, and General Carlos Romulo.

And now I extend my warm thanks on your behalf to the convention committee of International Rotary for their hospitality and generous coöperation. I hope we may have the pleasure of meeting many of the members of Rotary International on our trip around the world. In any case, we hope you all will be on the receiving end of these exciting programs, the first of which you will hear the second week in July from London, where our subject will be, "Does the Socialist State Tend To Destroy Individual Initiative?" Our speakers will be Captain Peter Thorneycroft, Conservative Member of Parliament, and Robert S. Byfield, Economist, representing the New York Stock Exchange, who say "Yes"; Harold J. Laski, Professor of Political Science at the University of London, and Max Lerner, columnist, who say "No." The following week from Paris, our subject will be, "How Can the United States and France Help Promote a Stable and Prosperous Europe?" Our speakers will be the well-known Mademoiselle Eve Curie, copublisher and editor of the *Paris Presse*; and Claude Bourdet, editor of the paper *Combat*; also, Milton Katz, U. S. Deputy Representative for ECA in France, and James B. Carey, Secretary-Treasurer of the CIO.

Although tonight's program will be the last one I shall moderate for three weeks, you will have excellent guest-moderators, including Dr. Houston Peterson and Clifton Fadiman. Dr. Peterson will preside over our next week's program, which will be extremely interesting to every member of this audience: "Is Our New Rent Law Fair to Tenants and Landlords?" Our speakers will be Senator John J. Sparkman, Democrat of Alabama, Senator Harry P. Cain, Republican of Washington, Tighe E. Woods, Federal Housing Expediter, and William E. Russell, general chairman of the Metropolitan Fair Rent Committee, of New York. So tonight, my good friends, it's "Au revoir, but not good-by"—

you'll be hearing from all of us in London, Paris, and other stops around the world. So we invite you to be with us next week and every week at the sound of the Crier's bell.